

Commonwealth of Virginia
Department of Social Services



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Date: August 24, 2004

Subject: ORR State Letter 04-14

To: ONS Resettlement Provider Directors

From: Kathy A. Cooper
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Virginia Office of Newcomer Services

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The federal Office of Refugee Resettlement issued ORR State Letter 04-14 on August 6, 2004. This ORR letter is titled: *"Clarification of the Social Security Administration's Procedures for Verifying Refugee and Asylee Status When Applying for a Social Security Card and Verification of Refugee Status with the Department of State Refugee Processing Center."*

The ORR Letter provides the Social Security Administration's procedures for verifying immigration status when a refugee, asylee, Cuban/Haitian Entrant, or victim of trafficking applies for a social security card. The verification procedures are different for each group.

The local SSA office verifies the applicant's immigration status through the SAVE database (Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlement). If the SAVE query does not confirm the applicant's immigration status, there are separate procedures for getting written verification depending on whether the applicant is a refugee, asylee, Cuban/Haitian, or victim of trafficking. Attached to the ORR Letter are the procedures for each.

The ONS office faxed a copy of this ORR State Letter to each ONS resettlement provider director on Thursday, August 26. Copies may be obtained by contacting Penny Boyd.